

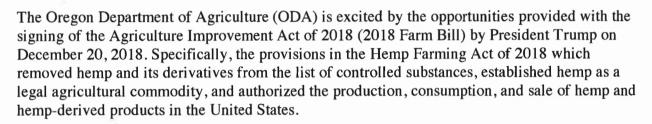


635 Capitol St NE Salem, OR 97301-2532

March 6, 2019

The Honorable Sonny Perdue Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Perdue,



As a state at the forefront of hemp production under the hemp pilot programs, ODA is eagerly awaiting direction from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding requirements for state implementation plans. In the meantime, Oregon is submitting this letter of intent with current statutes and rules attached.

Our hemp registrations are valid for a calendar year; each year we have seen a significant increase in the number of participants and acreage registered in Oregon.

Registration Year	No. of Growers	No. of Handlers	No. Acres
2015	13	13	105
2016	83	66	1,200
2017	246	189	3,000
2018	584	212	11,754
2019 (as of March 5 ^a)	615	232	~20,278

The passage of the 2018 Farm Bill was clear: interstate transportation of hemp is allowed, once a state's implementation plan has been submitted and approved. With the delay in rules until the 2020 crop year, Oregon's hemp industry is being subjected to unnecessary transportation and commerce restrictions and has examples to provide if needed.



While USDA engages in the rule making process for Section 10113 and 10114 of the 2018 Farm Bill, having additional guidance to allow the flow of hemp in interstate commerce would be critical to farmers in Oregon.

ODA looks forward to continuing our work with the USDA and other federal partners to make hemp a viable industry for farmers in Oregon and across the United States.

Sincerely,

Alexis M. Taylor

Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture

cc:

Deputy Secretary Steve Censky, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Under Secretary Greg Ibach, Market and Regulatory Programs, U.S. Department

of Agriculture

Enclosed:

Chapter 71 Oregon Laws

Oregon Administrative Rules 603-048: Industrial Hemp